

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

Claims 1. - 5. - (Cancelled)

Claim 6. (New) A rubber composition for adhering to steel cords, comprising:

a rubber;

(A) one of:

a mixture of a nickel metal-containing compound and a molybdenum metal-containing compound; and

a compound containing both nickel and molybdenum metals; and

(B) a mixture of:

(b1) one of hexamethylenetetramine and a melamine derivative, in an amount of 0.2 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of rubber; and

(b2) at least one compound selected from the group consisting of phenol resins, resorcin, resorcin derivatives, and cresol resins, in an amount of 0.1 to 10 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of rubber;

such that (A), on an equivalent metal weight basis, and (B), together, are present in an amount of 0.01 to 10 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of rubber; and

a calcium-containing compound.

Claim 7. (New) The composition according to claim 6, wherein said rubber is one of a natural rubber, a diene synthetic rubber, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 8. (New) The composition according to claim 6, wherein said calcium-containing compound is present in an amount of 0.1% to 20% by weight, of the weight of (A).

Claim 9. (New) The composition according to claim 6, further comprising a silica.

Claim 10. (New) The composition according to claim 9, wherein said silica is present in an amount of 1 to 100 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of rubber.

Claim 11. (New) The composition according to claim 6, wherein said rubber is selected from the group consisting of: polyisoprene rubber (IR), polybutadiene rubber (BR), styrene-butadiene rubber (SBR), isoprene-isobutylene rubber (IIR), ethylene-propylene-diene rubber (EPDM); and mixtures of the foregoing.

Claim 12. (New) The composition according to claim 6, wherein the nickel-containing compound, the molybdenum-containing compound, and the nickel and molybdenum-containing compound are each individually an inorganic compound or an organic compound.

Claim 13. (New) The composition according to claim 6, wherein the nickel-containing compound is selected from the group consisting of:

nickel oxide; nickel sulfate; nickel phosphate; nickel phosphite; nickel carbonate; nickel chloride; nickel salts of organic acids; organonickel sulfur compounds; and mixtures thereof.

Claim 14. (New) The composition according to claim 6, wherein the molybdenum-containing compound is selected from the group consisting of:

molybdenum oxide; molybdenum sulfate; molybdenum phosphate; molybdenum phosphite; molybdenum carbonate; molybdenum chloride; molybdenum salts of organic acids; organomolybdenum sulfur compounds; and mixtures thereof.

Claim 15. (New) The composition according to claim 13, wherein said nickel salt of an organic acid is selected from the group consisting of: nickel naphthenate; nickel octylate; nickel propionate; nickel abietate; nickel acetate; and mixtures thereof.

Claim 16. (New) The composition according to claim 14, wherein said molybdenum salt of an organic acid is selected from the group consisting of: molybdenum naphthenate; molybdenum abietate; and mixtures thereof.

Claim 17. (New) The composition according to claim 6, wherein said calcium-containing compound is selected from the group consisting of: calcium borate; and calcium neodecanoate.

Claim 18. (New) The composition according to claim 9, wherein said silica is selected from the group consisting of: silicic acid anhydride; and hydrated silicic acid.

Claim 19. (New) The composition according to claim 6, further comprising carbon black.

Claim 20. (New) The composition according to claim 19, wherein said carbon black is selected from the group consisting of carbon black classified according to ASTM D 1765, having a class number of:

SAF class: 100 series;

ISAF class: 200 series;

HAF class: 300 series; and

mixtures of the foregoing.

Claim 21. (New) The composition according to claim 19, wherein said carbon black is selected from the group consisting of carbon blacks having ASTM D 1765 classes: N110; N121; N219; N220; N231; N330; N339; and mixtures of the foregoing.

Claim 22. (New) The composition according to claim 9, further comprising carbon black.

Claim 23. (New) The composition according to claim 22, wherein said carbon black is selected from the group consisting of carbon black classified according to ASTM D 1765, having a class number of:

SAF class: 100 series;

ISAF class: 200 series;

HAF class: 300 series; and

mixtures of the foregoing.

Claim 24. (New) The composition according to claim 22, wherein said carbon black is selected from the group consisting of carbon blacks having ASTM D 1765

classes: N110; N121; N219; N220; N231; N330; N339; and mixtures of the foregoing.

Claim 25. (New) A rubber composition for adhering to steel cords, comprising:

a rubber;

(A) one of:

a mixture of a nickel metal-containing compound and a molybdenum metal-containing compound; and

a compound containing both nickel and molybdenum metals; and

(B) a mixture of:

(b1) one of hexamethylenetetramine and a melamine derivative, in an amount of 0.2 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of rubber; and

(b2) at least one compound selected from the group consisting of phenol resins, resorcin, resorcin derivatives, and cresol resins, in an amount of 0.1 to 10 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of rubber;

such that (A), on an equivalent metal weight basis, and (B), together, are present in an amount of 0.01 to 10 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of rubber;

a calcium-containing compound; and

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a silica.